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EXAMINER	
STOREY, WILLIAM C	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/699,660	CHEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	WILLIAM C. STOREY	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *25 February 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9 and 20-34* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7,9,20-31,33 and 34* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *8 and 32* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *25 February 2009 and 04 November 2003* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The amendment filed 2/25/09 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: For example, for the amendments to the specification at pg. 5 and the new fig. 4, the placement of 245 and the reference to it accordingly are not specified particularly by the written description as of the original filing date. Though the specification provided by the applicant mentions "the paper feeding path ranges from a paper feeding chute located on the backside of the to the inkjet printing module," the specification did not specify that the paper feeding chute was to be located in the particular lower corner as now drawn by the applicant or that the entry was as such, etc. The drawing imparts a disclosure not fully-defined by the original disclosure. For example, the opening could be along the entire backside of the casing of the inkjet printing module or the upper corner of the backside of the casing of the inkjet printing module. The applicant may be attempting to draw the figure in such a way as to preclude prior art that has been made aware after the original disclosure. Additionally, the broken line path of paper from still appears similar to the C-shape rather than an L-shape..

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the L-shaped paper conveying path of claims 4, 24, & 30 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the limitations of claim

6 & 28 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 8, 32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, & 20-24, 31, 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (5909226) in view of Wang (US 6381377) and well known prior art (MPEP 2144.03). Additionally, Namekawa et al. (US 6923584), hereinafter referred to as Namekawa; and Kawakami (US 6634746) provide further support.

Regarding claim 1, Takeda discloses A multi-function peripheral (fig. 1), comprising: a casing (fig. 1) having a first region laterally adjacent to a second region, wherein the casing comprises a cartridge lid positioned in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region (a "region" may be defined however an interpreter chooses: for example, a region may be an area of cm^3, an entire room, or even the entire universe. For discussing the limitations here, the first region may pertain to the entire casing height, but only including from the edge of the scan platform to the edge of the apparatus containing what will be determined as the scanner lid. Similarly, a second region may comprise the rest of the casing, including the cartridge lid. Tekada discloses wherein the casing comprises a cartridge lid positioned in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region (fig. 1 shows recording carriage 8 (which will be discussed later with regard to cartridges) being positioned outside of the periphery of the of the scan platform, and thus, of the first region in accordance with the

previous definition. However, the previous disclosures did not provide for a cartridge lid wholly in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region. col. 14, lines 7-18 and fig. 9, for example, disclose how having a lid covering the recording carriage at a replacement position allowing for exchanging while still allowing for the protection of recording materials. It would have been at least obvious to provide this additional opening by allowing for access to the insides of the apparatus (to fix a jam, or other internal issues) while still covering the cartridge if necessary and "eliminating the fear that the operator touches these parts to cause any malfunction thereof," as disclosed at col. 14, lines 13-14 of Takeda. Thus, this small lid may be in the second region outside of the periphery of the first region.);

a scanning module disposed within the casing (fig. 1 (11), col. 5, lines 60-67) and including a scan platform (fig. 1 (10)) and a scanning unit (fig. 1 (11), col. 5, lines 60-67) for capturing image data (sensors are disclosed installed on the carriage), the scan platform having a scan footprint defined, at least in part, by a first axis having a first dimension and a second axis having a second dimension, the second axis being generally perpendicular to the first axis, and the second dimension being shorter the first dimension (fig. 1, width is longer and may be first axis (g axis), length is shorter and may be second axis (h axis)); and

a printing module disposed within the casing below the scan platform (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 35-52), the printing module having a printing unit including a head bracket for carrying at least one ink head (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 43-48), the printing module being configured to move the head bracket along an axis of movement that is generally

parallel with the second axis of the scanning platform (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 37-40) but longer than the second axis (fig. 1 shows the carriage 8 outside of the scan footprint), the printing module being further configured to carry the head bracket to a position outside of the scan footprint (fig. 1, col. 6, lines 63-67 and col. 7, lines 1-3 disclose the carriage with the different color ink heads being stationed outside the scan foot print when the system is open that would allow access to the ink and ink heads.)

Although Takeda did not distinctly disclose the ink heads being cartridges with ink stored therein in the embodiment discussed previously, Takeda disclosed at fig. 11, col. 14, lines 66-67 and col. 15, lines 1-6 the ink on the carriage that may be exchanged therefrom. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to provide the ink heads being cartridges with ink thereon for the purpose of reducing manufacturing costs. Inherently, as the carriage is stationed outside of the scan footprint whenever the cover is opened as mentioned previously, the carriage is in a replacement position for replacing the inks.

Some may argue that it is not clear that the figure shows the length of the first dimension longer than the second; however, despite the fact that the examiner feels that it is shown, it would still have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the length of the first axis longer than the second in order to have the scan platform generally conform to the shape of a piece of paper (which is arguably the most-scanned item) for the purpose of allowing the user ease in identifying the paper's positional relation to the overall scan.

However, the previous disclosures did not distinctly disclose a scanner lid positioned in the first region and movable between an open and closed position, wherein the ink cartridge would be accessible when the cartridge bracket is in the replacement position when the scanner lid remains in the closed position.

In a similar field of endeavor, Wang discloses a scanning apparatus. In addition, Wang discloses a scanning lid (fig. 1 shows a lid with a cushion for the scan window 12 above the scan window 12.) By being positioned over the scan window (scan platform), the scanning lid is placed within the first region. Further, it is notoriously well known in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position. Thus, it would have been at least obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position in order to provide better scan output quality, keep more ambient light from affecting the scan, and/or protect the eyes of user.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the previous disclosures by specifically providing a scanner lid wherein the ink cartridge would be accessible when the cartridge bracket is in the replacement position when the scanner lid remains in the closed position, as taught by Wang, at least for the purpose of providing for greater image quality. The scanner lid closed over a document to be scanned would keep out ambient light, would keep dust off of the scan platform, etc. In addition, to weather any debate, it would have been at least obvious to keep the scanner lid closed while accessing the cartridge for the apparatus of Takeda for the reasons previously mentioned. The cartridge may be

accessed as described by Takeda, only that there would be a lid on top of the platform as well. The lid would also be part of the casing.

Additionally, for further support of a cartridge lid outside of a periphery of the first region, Kawakami discloses at fig. 7-8 and Namekawa discloses at fig. 2 & 9 other possible access design ideas that would have been obvious to implement at least in order to provide easier access to the ink cartridge while still providing protection to other components.

Regarding claim 2, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 1. Takeda discloses wherein the casing has a paper conveying path that comprises a paper feeding path and a paper discharge path, the paper discharge path being generally parallel with the first axis of the scan platform (fig. 1 discloses paper being taken from a cassette ((3), paper feeding path) and discharged out all in parallel with the first (longest) axis of the scan platform.)

Regarding claim 3, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 2. As disclosed above from fig. 1, it is clear that the paper taken from the cassette and move through, up, and out of the system moves in a C-shape.

Regarding claim 5, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 2. Tekada discloses disclose wherein the paper feeding path extends between a paper feeding cartridge (Fig. 1, (3)) located below the scan platform (10) and the printing module (8), and the paper discharge path extends between the printing module to a paper exit chute located below the scan platform and the paper feeding cartridge (evident from figure).

Regarding claim 6, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 2. Although Tekada did not distinctly disclose wherein the paper feeding path extends between a paper feeding chute located on a backside of the casing to the printing module and the paper discharge path extends between the printing module to a paper exit chute located below the scan platform in the previously-discussed embodiment, Tekada disclosed in fig. 7 that paper may be loaded in a sheet feed tray (22) (paper

Regarding claim 9, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 1. Takeda discloses wherein the scanning unit has a scanning path generally parallel with the first axis of the scan platform (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 60-67, col. 6, lines 1-3 disclose the carriage 11 (scanning unit) reciprocating in the second axis direction and that the carriage proceeds to the next line in the first axis (opposite to the feeding direction A of the recording material). Thus, the width direction is parallel with A, which represents the first axis of the scan platform.

Regarding claim 21, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 1. Col. 6, lines 19-20 disclose that the system disclosed is an inkjet recording means. Inherently, an ink cartridge used by the inkjet recording means to record must be an inkjet printer cartridge.

Regarding claim 22, Takeda discloses

a housing (fig. 1) having a first region laterally adjacent to a second region (a "region" may be defined however an interpreter chooses: for example, a region may be an area of cm^3, an entire room, or even the entire universe. For discussing the limitations here, the second region may pertain to the entire casing height, but only

including from the edge of the scan platform to the edge of the apparatus containing what will be determined as the scanner lid. Similarly, a first region may comprise the rest of the casing, including the cartridge lid.),

a printer (col. 5, lines 1-17, image recording unit may read on printer) having a paper feeding unit (fig. 1, starting from (3) through to paper output and the associated elements with the paper's movement in figure 1 may read on claimed paper feeding unit) with a first longitudinal axis (fig. 1, reciprocal direction parallel with A) and a carriage bracket (fig. 1, (8)) for carrying an ink head along a first transverse axis that is perpendicular with the first longitudinal axis (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 37-40);

and a scanner operably coupled to the printer (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 11-17, image reading unit may read on scanner. In order to have the functions of a copying machine (scanning then printing), the scanner must be operably coupled to the printer), the scanner including a scan platform (fig. 1 (10)) having a footprint defined by a second longitudinal axis and a second transverse axis, the second longitudinal axis aligned with the first longitudinal axis of the paper feeding unit and the second transverse axis perpendicular with the longitudinal axis of the scan platform (fig. 1, width is longer and may be second longitudinal axis (aligned with g axis), length is shorter and may be second transverse axis (aligned with h axis)), wherein the carriage bracket is configured to carry the printer cartridge along the first transverse axis of the printer to a position that is outside of the footprint of the scanner (fig. 1 shows the carriage 8 outside of the scan footprint and fig. 1, col. 6, lines 63-67 and col. 7, lines 1-3 disclose the carriage

with the different color ink heads being stationed outside the scan foot print when the system is open that would allow access to the ink and ink heads.).

Although Takeda did not distinctly disclose the ink heads being cartridges with ink stored therein in the embodiment discussed previously, Takeda disclosed at fig. 11, col. 14, lines 66-67 and col. 15, lines 1-6 the ink on the carriage that may be exchanged therefrom. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to provide the ink heads being cartridges with ink thereon for the purpose of reducing manufacturing costs. Inherently, as the carriage is stationed outside of the scan footprint whenever the cover is opened as mentioned previously, the carriage is a replacement position for replacing the inks.

A cartridge lid positioned in the first region (Tekada discloses wherein the casing comprises a cartridge lid positioned in the first region outside of a periphery of the second region (fig. 1 shows recording carriage 8 (which will be discussed later with regard to cartridges) being positioned outside of the periphery of the of the scan platform, and thus, of the second region in accordance with the previous definition. However, the previous disclosures did not provide for a cartridge lid wholly in the first region outside of a periphery of the second region. col. 14, lines 7-18 and fig. 9, for example, disclose how having a lid covering the recording carriage at a replacement position allowing for exchanging while still allowing for the protection of recording materials. It would have been at least obvious to provide this additional opening by allowing for access to the insides of the apparatus (to fix a jam, or other internal issues) while still covering the cartridge if necessary and "eliminating the fear that the operator

touches these parts to cause any malfunction thereof," as disclosed at col. 14, lines 13-14 of Takeda. Thus, this small lid may be in the first region outside of the periphery of the second region.)

However, the previous disclosures did not distinctly disclose a scanner lid positioned in the second region and movable between an open and closed position, wherein the printer cartridge would be accessible in the position outside the footprint of the scanner when the scanner lid remains in the closed position.

In a similar field of endeavor, Wang discloses a scanning apparatus. In addition, Wang discloses a scanning lid (fig. 1 shows a lid with a cushion for the scan window 12 above the scan window 12.) By being positioned over the scan window (scan platform), the scanning lid is placed within the second region. Further, it is notoriously well known in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position. Thus, it would have been at least obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position in order to provide better scan output quality, keep more ambient light from affecting the scan, and/or protect the eyes of user. Inherently, the scanner lid is positioned in the second region outside the periphery of the first region when the cartridge lid is positioned in the first region outside the periphery of the second region defined by placement of the scan platform.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the previous disclosures by specifically providing a scanner lid wherein the printer cartridge would be accessible in the position outside the footprint of the scanner when the scanner lid remains in the closed position., as

taught by Wang, at least for the purpose of providing for greater image quality. The scanner lid closed over a document to be scanned would keep out ambient light, would keep dust off of the scan platform, etc. In addition, to weather any debate, it would have been at least obvious to keep the scanner lid closed while accessing the cartridge for the apparatus of Takeda for the reasons previously mentioned. The cartridge may be accessed as described by Takeda, only that there would be a lid on top of the platform as well. The lid would also be part of the casing. The lid may also be said to be part of the "scanner."

Additionally, for further support of a cartridge lid outside of a periphery of the first region, Kawakami discloses at fig. 7-8 and Namekawa discloses at fig. 2 & 9 other possible access design ideas that would have been obvious to implement at least in order to provide easier access to the ink cartridge while still providing protection to other components.

(A similar discussion for the regions was provided for claim 1. However, here, the applicant has switched the designation of first and second. If there is any translational error, please refer to the similar reasoning provided for the first claim to provide further understanding.)

Regarding claim 23, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 22. Takeda discloses wherein the printer is generally below the scanner (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 13-16, image recording unit may read on printer, image reading unit may read on scanner), and the paper feeding unit comprises a generally C-type shape (fig. 1 discloses paper being taken from a cassette ((3), paper feeding path) and discharged

out all in parallel with the second longitudinal axis of the scan platform. As disclosed above from fig. 1, it is clear that the paper taken from the cassette and move through, up, and out of the system moves in a C-shape.)

Regarding claim 24, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 22. The claim is similarly rejected as applied for claim 4. Takeda discloses wherein the printer is generally below the scanner (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 13-16, image recording unit may read on printer, image reading unit may read on scanner).

Regarding claim 31, the claim is rejected based upon similar reasoning as applied above for claim 1. The housing may be read upon by the casing. Again, the regions may defined as desired so long as they include their respective lids. Thus, the may be in an adjacent side-by-side configuration.

Regarding claim 33, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 31. It was previously disclosed how Takeda provides for a lid that covers an opening for exchanging from the recording carriage. This is at the replacement position. When the lid is open, the ink cartridge would be capable of being exposed through the opening when the ink cartridge is in the replacement position.

Regarding claim 34, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 33. The previous discussions and the lid provided by Takeda for covering/accessing the recording carriage provide for the limitations of the claim.

5. Claims 4, 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previous disclosures as applied to claim 2 and/or 26, and further support is provided in view of Sasaki et al. (US 20030184627), hereinafter referred to as Sasaki.

Regarding claim 4, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 2. Although Tekada did not distinctly disclose the paper conveying path having an L-shape, Tekada disclosed in fig.7 that paper may be loaded in a sheet feed tray (22) and move through the printing system.

However, some may argue that the shape provided by Tekada does not really look like an "L." In a similar field of endeavor, Sasaki discloses a multi-function system with a paper feed tray. In addition, Sasaki discloses fig. 3 that shows a system that feeds paper in an "L" shape from (22) to (34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tekada by specifically providing a more upright paper feed tray that allows the paper path to look like an "L," as taught by Sasaki, for the purpose of providing greater convenience through easier feed access. (The applicant has previously expressed some distress over the idea that fig. 3 of Sasaki might not really be an L-shape printing path. While the examiner respectfully disagrees, the examiner still points out that under any circumstances, the shape provided is certainly substantially L-shape. Considering this, it would have been at least obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the paper path in an L-shape for the purposes of design choice and/or perhaps to save more counter space by having the feed tray/holder lie create more of a 90-degree angle (perhaps more L-shape to the applicant) in the paper path. If the applicant should become upset at the slight lift at the end of the paper path, this too would be obvious to make straighter for at the least the

purpose of design choice and/or to make the design simpler by removing the improvement of the tray at the end.)

Regarding claim 30, the claim everything as applied above for claim 26. The claim is rejected based upon similar reasoning as applied above for claim 4.

6. Claims 7, 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previous disclosures as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Brown et al. (US 20040252330), hereinafter referred to as Brown.

Regarding claim 7, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 1.

However, the previous disclosures did not distinctly disclose wherein the cartridge lid is laterally adjacent to the scanner lid in a side-by-side configuration.

In a similar field of endeavor, Brown discloses a multifunction printer. In addition, Brown discloses in fig. 3, a lid on the left side of the scanning platen, laterally adjacent in a side-by-side configuration. The previous discussions have provided for a lid that only covers the platen, leaving accessible the area that would contain the opening. Fig. 3 provides for an easier way of accessing the inside of the printer, such as for exchanging a cartridge from the carriage. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the previous disclosures by specifically providing an more accessible lid/way to access the cartridge position inside the apparatus, as taught by Brown (in consideration of previous discussions), for the purpose of greater accessibility and/or ease.

Regarding claim 25, Takeda discloses a scanning module (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 10-16, image reading unit) including a scan platform (fig. 1, (10)) and scanning means (fig.

1, (11)) for acquiring image data (col. 6, lines 4-8) regarding an object positioned at the scan platform (It is inherent that there be some sort of object positioned at the scan platform to scan in order to get meaningful information back.), the scan platform having a generally rectangular footprint (fig. 1) that comprises a longitudinal dimension and a lateral dimension that is shorter than the longitudinal dimension (fig. 1, width is longer and may be longitudinal dimension (aligned with g axis), length is shorter and may be lateral dimension (aligned with h axis));

a printing module operably coupled to the scan platform (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 10-16, image recording unit) and including a cartridge lid (Tekada discloses wherein the casing comprises a cartridge lid positioned in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region (fig. 1 shows recording carriage 8 (which will be discussed later with regard to cartridges) being positioned outside of the periphery of the of the scan platform, and thus, of the first region in accordance with the previous definition. However, the previous disclosures did not provide for a cartridge lid wholly in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region. col. 14, lines 7-18 and fig. 9, for example, disclose how having a lid covering the recording carriage at a replacement position allowing for exchanging while still allowing for the protection of recording materials. It would have been at least obvious to provide this additional opening by allowing for access to the insides of the apparatus (to fix a jam, or other internal issues) while still covering the cartridge if necessary and "eliminating the fear that the operator touches these parts to cause any malfunction thereof," as disclosed at col. 14, lines 13-14 of Takeda. Thus, this small lid may be in the second region outside of the periphery

of the first region.) and printing means (image recording unit parts associated with printing) employing an ink head for printing a graphical image associated with the object (col. 5, lines 36-50. The system allows for printing a graphical image. Col. 5, lines 11-13 disclose the system provided with the functions of a copying machine so that the image of scanned object may be printed), the printing means carrying the ink head along an axis of motion that is generally parallel with the lateral dimension of the rectangular footprint (fig. 1, col. 5, lines 37-40), the printing means also carrying the ink head to an ink head replacement position, outside of the rectangular footprint of the scan platform (fig. 1, col. 6, lines 63-67 and col. 7, lines 1-3 disclose the carriage with the different color ink heads being stationed outside the scan foot print when the system is open that would allow access to the ink and ink heads.);

Although Takeda did not distinctly disclose the ink heads being cartridges with ink thereon in the embodiment discussed previously, Takeda disclosed at fig. 11, col. 14, lines 66-67 and col. 15, lines 1-6 the ink on the carriage that may be exchanged therefrom. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to provide the ink heads being cartridges with ink thereon for the purpose of reducing manufacturing costs. Inherently, as the carriage is stationed outside of the scan footprint whenever the cover is opened as mentioned previously, the carriage is a replacement position for replacing the inks.

Some may argue that it is not clear that the figure shows the length of the first axis longer than the second, making a generally rectangular footprint; however, despite the fact that the examiner feels that it is shown, it would still have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the length of the first axis longer than the second in order to have the scan platform generally conform to the shape of a piece of paper (which is arguably the most-scanned item) for the purpose of allowing the user ease in identifying the paper's positional relation to the overall scan.

However, the previous disclosures did not distinctly disclose a scanner lid positioned in the first region and movable between an open and closed position, wherein the ink cartridge would be accessible when the cartridge bracket is in the replacement position when the scanner lid remains in the closed position.

In a similar field of endeavor, Wang discloses a scanning apparatus. In addition, Wang discloses a scanning lid (fig. 1 shows a lid with a cushion for the scan window 12 above the scan window 12.) By being positioned over the scan window (scan platform), the scanning lid is placed within the first region. Further, it is notoriously well known in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position. Thus, it would have been at least obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a scanner lid moveable between an open and closed position in order to provide better scan output quality, keep more ambient light from affecting the scan, and/or protect the eyes of user.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the previous disclosures by specifically providing a scanner lid wherein the ink cartridge would be accessible when the cartridge bracket is in the replacement position when the scanner lid remains in the closed position, as taught by Wang, at least for the purpose of providing for greater image quality. The

scanner lid closed over a document to be scanned would keep out ambient light, would keep dust off of the scan platform, etc. In addition, to weather any debate, it would have been at least obvious to keep the scanner lid closed while accessing the cartridge for the apparatus of Takeda for the reasons previously mentioned. The cartridge may be accessed as described by Takeda, only that there would be a lid on top of the platform as well. The lid may also be said to be part of the "scanning module."

and means for commonly housing the scanning module and the printing module (fig. 1 and previous discussions), wherein the means for commonly housing comprises a first region at least generally coplanar with a second region, and wherein the scanner lid is positioned in the first region and the cartridge lid is positioned in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region (a "region" may be defined however an interpreter chooses: for example, a region may be an area of cm^3, an entire room, or even the entire universe. For discussing the limitations here, the first region may pertain to the entire housing height, but only including from the edge of the scan platform to the edge of the apparatus containing what will be determined as the scanner lid. Similarly, a second region may comprise the rest of the apparatus, including the cartridge lid. The regions may be defined as to be generally coplanar.
Tekada discloses wherein the housing comprises a cartridge lid positioned in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region (fig. 1 shows recording carriage 8 (which will be discussed later with regard to cartridges) being positioned outside of the periphery of the of the scan platform, and thus, of the first region in accordance with the previous definition. However, the previous disclosures did not provide for a cartridge lid

wholly in the second region outside of a periphery of the first region. col. 14, lines 7-18 and fig. 9, for example, disclose how having a lid covering the recording carriage at a replacement position allowing for exchanging while still allowing for the protection of recording materials. It would have been at least obvious to provide this additional opening by allowing for access to the insides of the apparatus (to fix a jam, or other internal issues) while still covering the cartridge if necessary and "eliminating the fear that the operator touches these parts to cause any malfunction thereof," as disclosed at col. 14, lines 13-14 of Takeda. Thus, this small lid may be in the second region outside of the periphery of the first region.

However, for further support, in a similar field of endeavor, Brown discloses a multifunction printer. In addition, Brown discloses in fig. 3, a lid on the left side of the scanning platen, laterally adjacent in a side-by-side configuration. The previous discussions have provided for a lid that only covers the platen, leaving accessible the area that would contain the opening. Fig. 3 provides for an easier way of accessing the inside of the printer, such as for exchanging a cartridge from the carriage. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the previous disclosures by specifically providing an more accessible lid/way to access the cartridge position inside the apparatus, as taught by Brown (in consideration of previous discussions), for the purpose of greater accessibility and/or ease. The lids would be generally coplanar.).

In addition, "While features of an apparatus may be recited either structurally or functionally, claims directed to an apparatus must be distinguished from the prior art in

terms of structure rather than function. In re Schreiber, 128 F.3d 1473, 1477-78, 44 USPQ2d 1429, 1431-32 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (The absence of a disclosure in a prior art reference relating to function did not defeat the Board's finding of anticipation of claimed apparatus because the limitations at issue were found to be inherent in the prior art reference); see also In re Swinehart, 439 F.2d 210, 212-13, 169 USPQ 226,228-29 (CCPA 1971); In re Danly, 263 F.2d 844,847, 120 USPQ 528,531 (CCPA 1959). "[A]pparatus claims cover what a device is, not what a device does." Hewlett-Packard Co. v. Bausch & Lomb Inc., 909 F.2d 1464, 1469, 15 USPQ2d 1525, 1528 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (emphasis in original)."-MPEP 2114-R1. The system is categorically representative of an apparatus. Therefore, any structurally-equivalent system capable of performing the functionality described in the claim would anticipate the claim.

Regarding claim 26, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 25. Takeda discloses a paper conveying means (evident from fig. 1) operatively coupled (inherent to be able to print on the paper effectively) with the printing module, the paper conveying means including a paper feeding path and a paper discharge path (fig. 1 discloses paper being taken from a cassette ((3), paper feeding path) and discharged out all in parallel with the first longitudinal dimension of the scan platform.)

Regarding claim 27, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 26. The claim is similarly rejected based upon reasoning applied for claim 5 in conjunction with evidence from fig. 1.

Regarding claim 28, the claim inherits everything as applied above for claim 26. In addition, the claim is rejected based upon similar reasoning as applied above for claim 6 in conjunction with evidence from fig. 1.

Regarding claim 29, the claim everything as applied above for claim 26. The claim is rejected based upon similar reasoning as applied above for claim 3.

Response to Arguments

Regarding the applicant's interview summary, the examiner would like to respectfully point out that having the examiner provide the applicant a quick estimate that something *appears* to overcome the *previous application* of the references and that something would provide a better chance of overcoming the previous application of the references in addition with stating that any amendments would be fully considered when submitted formally for examination does not constitute an acknowledgement or agreement that the applied references would not disclose features of the claims that the applicant then chose to place in the claims.

Regarding the applicant's submission of the amendments to the specification at pg. 5 and the new fig. 4: the amendments are not able to be entered. For example, the placement of 245 and the reference to it accordingly are not specified particularly by the written description as of the original filing date. Though the specification provided by the applicant mentions "the paper feeding path ranges from a paper feeding chute located on the backside of the to the inkjet printing module," the specification did not specify that the paper feeding chute was to be located in the particular lower corner as now drawn by the applicant or that the entry was as such, etc. The drawing imparts a

disclosure not fully-defined by the original disclosure. For example, the opening could be along the entire backside of the casing of the inkjet printing module or the upper corner of the backside of the casing of the inkjet printing module. The applicant may be attempting to draw the figure in such a way as to preclude prior art that has been made aware after the original disclosure. Additionally, the broken line path of paper from still appears similar to the C-shape rather than an L-shape.

Regarding the prior art rejections, applicant's amendments prompt the introduction of new discussions to address the new amendments. With regard to claim 8, the applicant's disagreement is presently rendered moot considering the new amendments that affected the scope of claim 8.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 20050151782 discloses removal of ink (see fig. 3).

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WILLIAM C. STOREY whose telephone number is (571)270-3576. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday Eastern Standard Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Y. Poon can be reached on (571) 272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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